

TROPICAL STORM IDA – FEMA DISASTER DECLARATION – OCTOBER 30, 2021

For all Storm Ida FEMA Disaster information, please go to http://www.darienct.gov/fema.

President Biden approved Governor Lamont's request for a disaster declaration for damage from remnants of Hurricane Ida on Saturday, October 30, 2021. Specifically, the President approved the FEMA individual assistance programs for Fairfield County and New London County (including the two tribal nations in New London County) and the Hazard Mitigation Program for the entire state. The FEMA Public Assistance Grant program is still pending completion of the FEMA preliminary damage assessment. HERE is the Governor's press release regarding the approval of the disaster declaration.

The Federal Declaration approval enables various assistance programs for households/businesses:

SBA Loan Assistance for Businesses, Homeowners and Renters:

Application Deadlines: Physical Damage – 12/29/2021 Economic Injury – 08/01/2022

The Darien Library will be hosting a Small Business Recovery Center from 11/03/21 through 01/02/22. The center will operate from 9:00am – 6:00pm Monday – Friday, and 10:00am – 2:00pm on Saturdays.

For more information on the disaster loans from the SBA, click <u>HERE</u>.

FEMA Grant Assistance for Homeowners, Renters, Business Owners: Please be aware that there is a sixty (60) day window to submit applications to FEMA. Your application is due by close of business on 12/29/2021.

The **FEMA Individual Assistance Program** makes federal disaster assistance available to homeowners, renters, and business owners who sustained uninsured or underinsured damage to their property in Fairfield County and New London County. This may include grants/reimbursements for temporary housing and emergency home repairs to make housing safe, accessible, and secure.

You can apply for financial assistance NOW.

The fastest and easiest way to apply for FEMA assistance is by visiting disasterassistance.gov or by downloading the FEMA app. If it is not possible to apply online, call 800-621-3362. When you look up your zip code, the "Apply Online" button will show up. Click that button to start the process. The application is estimated to take on average 20 minutes. HERE is a link to the frequently asked questions. All money offered by FEMA is tax-free. You must use the assistance as stated in your award letter.

How does the application process work?

Here is an outline of the FEMA application process, including the FEMA inspection, which is completed before grant approval. Here is the FEMA fact sheet for the IHP assistance programs. FEMA's Individuals and Households Program (IHP) gives financial help or direct services to people with essential needs not met through other means. The maximum amount offered under IHP is set on an annual basis. IHP aid is supplemental and meant to help you restore your damaged property to a safe, sanitary, and usable condition. It does not take the place of insurance, and will not restore the property to its condition before the disaster.